

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 SY-05 /055 W

-----190455Z 003182 /21

O 181704Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3370

C O N F I D E N T I A L BEIRUT 1200

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MARR, LE, US

SUBJECT: DANY CHAMOUN TO VISIT WASHINGTON

1. SUMMARY: DANY REPEAT DANY CHAMOUN, YOUNGER SON OF CAMILLE CHAMOUN, IS VISITING US BEGINNING APPROXIMATELY MARCH 21. SAYS HE HAS POLITICAL MISSION, PRIMARILY TO ASCERTAIN IF USG WILL SUPPORT CHRISTIANS IN LEBANON. WANTS TO CALL ON DEPARTMENT OF STATE AND DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT HE BE RECEIVED POLITELY, AT WORKING LEVEL IN DEPARTMENT; THAT NOTHING BE DONE TO IMPLY USG ACCORDS DANY ANY OFFICIAL STATUS; AND THAT IN CONTACTS WITH DEPARTMENT IT BE MADE CLEAR THAT USG FULLY SUPPORTS SARKIS GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

2. DANY CHAMOUN, WHO IS LEADER OF NATIONAL LIBERAL PARTY MILITIA ORGANIZATION AND, AFTER BECHIR GEMAYEL, THE NUMBER TWO CHRISTIAN MILITIA LEADER IN LEBANON, HAS NOTIFIED OUR DEFENSE ATTACHE THAT HE IS LEAVING LEBANON FOR WASHINGTON MARCH 20. HE HAS SOUGHT MEETING BEFORE DEPARTURE WITH AMBASSADOR, WHO HAS REGRETTED BECAUSE OF TENSE SECURITY SITUATION FOLLOWING DEATH OF KAMAL JUNBLATT. DANY HAS AGREED, INSTEAD, TO MEET AGAIN WITH DEFENSE ATTACHE AND EMBASSY POLITICAL OFFICER ON MARCH 19.

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3. DANY TELLS DATT THAT HE GOING TO WASHINGTON (IT WILL BE HIS FIRST TRIP TO THE US) TO ASCERTAIN USG ATTITUDES ON THREE QUESTIONS: 1) DOES THE USG, IN LINE WITH WHAT CHARLES MALIK HAS BEEN SAYING SUPPORT CHRISTIANS IN LEBANON; 2) WHAT IS THE USG ATTITUDE ON A POLITICAL FORMULA FOR LEBANON, PARTICULARLY ON THE QUESTION OF DECENTRALIZATION; AND 3) US MILITARY ASSISTANCE TO LEBANON. IT IS ALSO

LIKELY THAT, IN ADDITION TO HIS "POLITICAL" MISSIONS, DANY WILL BE IN TOUCH WITH AND SEEK INCREASED SUPPORT FOR THE MARONITE CAUSE FROM THE LEBANESE AMERICAN COMMUNITY.

4. WE RECOMMEND THAT DEPARTMENT HANDLE VISIT AS THAT OF A NON-OFFICIAL LEBANESE POLITICAL FIGURE OF LIMITED STATURE AND THAT IT DISABUSE DANY OF THE NOTION THAT THE USG SUPPORTS MARONITE SEPARATION OR THAT WE ARE PREPARED TO TALK TO HIM ABOUT OUR POTENTIAL MILITARY SUPPLY RELATIONSHIP WITH THE GOL. ON POLITICAL FORMULA, SUGGEST OUR RESPONSE BE THAT THIS IS OF COURSE A MATTER FOR LEBANESE TO DECIDE, BUT MARONITES SHOULD NOT BE UNDER ILLUSION WE WOULD BE PREPARED TO GUARANTEE THEIR SOLUTION. RELATIONS WITH OTHER PEOPLES OF LEBANON AND WITH LEBANON'S NEIGHBORS ARE RESPONSIBILITY OF CHRISTIANS, NOT USG.

5. WE PLAN TO GIVE DANY ON MARCH 19 THE NAME AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF DESK OFFICER HOWELL. DANY WOULD, OF COURSE, HOPE TO SEE THE HIGHEST RANKING USG OFFICERS POSSIBLE. WE RECOMMEND THAT HE NOT SEE ANYONE ABOVE THE OFFICER DIRECTOR LEVEL.

6. CHAMOUNISTS BELIEVE DANY HAS A PERSONAL SECURITY PROBLEM, AND ARE PARTICULARLY CONCERNED ABOUT PALESTINIANS IN WASHINGTON. HE MAY REQUEST SOME FORM OF SPECIAL PROTECTION WHEN HE ARRIVES. WE ARE DISCOURAGING HIM FROM EXPECTING ANY.

7. DATT IS REPORTING DANY'S VISIT TO DOD, AND HE WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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IN TOUCH WITH DOD, PARTICULARLY ON POSSIBLE US MILITARY ASSISTANCE. RECOMMEND DEPARTMENT COORDINATE WITH DOD TO ASSURE HIS TREATMENT THERE IS CONSONANT WITH TREATMENT IN THE DEPARTMENT.

8. AMBASSADOR PLANS TO ADVISE FONMIN BOUTROS OF THE ATTITUDE THE USG IS TAKING TOWARD DANY'S VISIT.
PARKER

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHRISTIANS, PARTY LEADERS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3071427
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANY CHAMOUN TO VISIT WASHINGTON
TAGS: PFOR, PINT, MARR, OVIP, LE, US, (CHAMOUN, DANY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/0516eeb5-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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